

Arizona Friends of Talking Books Reaches Goal

Arizona Friends of Talking Books provided funding for conversion from analog to digital recording equipment at the Braille and Talking Book Library. This is in preparation for the national conversion to talking books on digital flash cards. In order to be compatible with the new digital equipment that patrons will be using, the local recording program needed to go digital also.

The Talking Book Library installed the first digital recording system in the local studio using APH (American Printing House for the Blind) Studio Recorder software. To create digital talking books that meet all of the National Library Service (NLS) standards an LCM (Low Complexity Mastering) system has been ordered.

The digital books will provide users with enhanced audio quality and navigation features. Features will include automatic bookmarks, audio prompts, spelling of selected words and the ability to skip ahead or back at selected intervals. The digital player will be smaller than the current cassette player, more durable and more user-friendly. Equipment and software is also being installed for conversion of selected analog titles to the new digital format.